BOOK REVIEW

Biochemistry of Insects. Morris Rockstein, ed. Academic Press. 649 p. 1978. $29.50.

This volume consists of 14 chapters, covering all aspects of insect biochemistry, the protein synthesis, insect pigments, cuticle, chemical genetics and the functional role of carbohydrates. The authors of this treatise are among the leading authorities in the diverse areas of insect biochemistry. G. Michael Chippendale gives an in-depth analysis of the function of carbohydrates in insect life processes. Roger G. H. Downer discusses the fundamental role of lipids, their digestion, transport, biosynthesis and endocrine regulation of lipid metabolism. Moises Agosin covers the functional role of proteins, and P. S. Chen protein synthesis in relation to cellular activation and deactivation. The insect cuticle, sclerotization and melanization are the subject of a chapter by A. Glenn Richards. The role of insect biochromes is presented by A. E. Needham. Lynn M. Riddiford and her husband James W. Truman combined forces to give a lucid and stimulating presentation of the present status of insect hormones and growth regulators. Nevin Weaver covers the intraspecific chemical control of behavior, while Wendell L. Roelofs deals with pheromones. The biochemical defenses are the subject of Muray S. Blum's exciting presentation. R. D. O'Brien gives an up-to-date analysis of the biochemistry of toxic action of insecticides. The detoxication mechanisms are described by W. C. Dauterman and Ernest Hodgson. The last chapter, by Francisco J. Ayala, is on chemical genetics and evolution.

Each chapter includes a general reference list of pertinent books and reviews for advanced students and research scientists. There is an extensive subject index. The volume is unique in providing an authoritative and comprehensive coverage of a critical interdisciplinary area. The quality of the contributions is uniformly high and exceptionally stimulating. The contributors covered thoroughly all aspects of insect biochemistry and thus provided a volume that will be indispensable for researchers, students, and teachers and will have lasting value. This outstanding book will be of interest to workers in entomology, agriculture, toxicology, pesticides, bio-organic chemistry, pollution research, ecology, and biochemistry.

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BOOK REVIEW

The Life that Lives on Man. By Michael Andrews. Toplinger Publishing Co., New York. 183 p. 1976. Paperback $4.95; cloth $9.95.

This is a delightful book, and its selection by Library Journal as one of the 100 best science books of 1977 certainly seems justified. The "life"